Annual Report

of the Medical Officer of Health of the Kingswood Urban District Council of the Sanitary state of the District under their control for the Year 1897.

Gentlemen

I beg to submit to you my annual report respecting the Health and Sanitary condition of the Kingswood district for the year ended December 1897.

Configuration

The Configuration of the District renders it conducive to the general good health of the inhabitants. Considering the recent extensions of the Bristol Boundaries it is not likely that there will be an alteration in the size of the District for some years to come. The weather during the year was all in favour of general good health. Influenza was prevalent during the first half of the year otherwise we were free from epidemics of any kind.

Population

The population in 1891 was 9.700 since then it has grown rapidly and is now estimated at 12,000: no doubt the electric tramways connected with the city have been one means to this end. There is no fresh trade introduced into the District and although the boot-trade

towards the close of the year was in a depressed condition and much distress among the poor prevailed, yet it does not seem to have had any marked effect on the general health of the District

Water. During the year the water supplied by the West Gloucester Company has been ample and satisfactory, the mains have been laid as to Cork-road and Two-stone-lane and four standposts have been supplied:- 1st in Hanham Road - 2nd near Hanham Schools. 3rd near the Tennis-court and 4th Hopewell Hill - an auxiliary main has been laid along Cheltenham Road to opposite the Board Schools this gives a better pressure of water to Kingswood Hill. A storage reservoir has been elected on Hopewell Hill capable of holding nearly 3,000,000 gallons of water.

Drainage & Sewage. The Sewage scheme to which I referred in my last report as having been approved of has not been put into actual practice yet but the arrangements are progressing and we hope before long that the work will have commenced.

Factories I have visited all the factories in the District and found some few in an unsatisfactory state as regards sanitation these I again visited and found for the most part that my instructions had been carried out.

Food. No sample of food has been submitted to me for analysis

13 samples of water were sent to me for analysis - 5 of which I condemned as unfit for drinking purposes.

Overcrowding

I have to report one case of overcrowding which was rectified at my request. I inspected the Bakehouses, Cowsheds, Dairies and slaughterhouses and am pleased to state there is a marked improvement in their sanitary state comparing them with last year.

343 births were registered during the year of these only 79 were vaccinated at the public stations - these figures show that we have a large proportion unvaccinated among whom should they be exposed to the infection of smallpox there would probably be a high death-rate.

Births:

The total number of births registered during the year was 343 giving a rate of 28.5 per 1000 - this shows a decrease as compared with the previous year when 359 births were registered giving a rate of 32.7 per 1000

Mortality

Assuming the population of the District to be 12000, the total number of deaths from all causes was 138 - giving a rate of 11.5 per 1000 as compared with 176 deaths registered last year with a rate of 16 per 1000 - this, gentlemen, is very satisfactory - being the lowest death-rate since the formation of the Board and should be sufficient proof of the satisfactory state of the Health

of the District.
The average rate for the past seven years is 14.9 per 1000.

Infantile Mortality

Of the 138 deaths 48 were infants under one year giving a rate of 145.7 per 1000. – this compares favorably with last year when 58 deaths were registered out of a total of 176, and the rate was 161.6 per 1000.

Deaths between 1 and 5 years.

17 deaths were registered over one year and under five :– 27 were registered between the same ages last year.

5 and 15 years.

6 deaths occurred between 5 and 15 years – last year 14 were registered under this table.

15 and 25 years.

Between 15 and 25 years 6 deaths were registered – whereas 7 were registered last year.

25 and 65 years

36 deaths were registered between the ages of 25 and 65 years as against 57 last year.

65 and upwards.

25 deaths from 65 years and upwards as against 19 for last year it is only under this table that there is any increase.

The excess of Births over deaths during the year was 205 as compared with 183 last year.

Zymotic diseases requiring notification

Of these 42 cases were reported during the year and only one proved fatal against 82 cases for the previous year with 10 deaths.

Scarlet Fever. 21 cases were notified during the year and no death resulted

Small-pox No case reported during the year.

Enteric Fever. Two sporadic cases were reported in the District - I am pleased to say both recovered and no further cases arose, although we had the epidemic so near us as Clifton.

Diphtheria. Three cases were registered - One proved fatal

Membranous Croup. No case notified.

Typhus Fever No case reported.

Puerperal Fever No case reported.

Erysipelas. 16 cases were reported 15 of which were over the age of 5 years. no deaths occurred from this disease

Cholera No case reported.

Zymotic diseases not requiring Notification

Measles. One death from this disease was registered - no doubt there were a number of cases during the year - but this disease does not come under the "Infectious diseases Notification Act"

Hooping-cough caused one death under 5 years of age.

Diarrhoea & Dysentery. caused two deaths under 5 years.

Influenza This disease was prevalent throughout the year, especially in the earlier months. Two deaths occured - both are 5 years of age.

Phthisis. 12 deaths occured 11 of which were persons over 5 years of age.

Cancer Three deaths resulted from this disease - all over 5 years.

Bronchitis - Pneumonia and Pleurisy

The number of deaths was 29 against 42 registered last year - This shows a marked improvement. 23 of the 29 were under 5 years.

Rheumatic Fever.

One death was registered - over the age of 5 years.

Cardiac Diseases.

19 deaths were registered - all over 5 years - this is very little difference compared with last year

I Remain Gentlemen

Your Obedient Servant

C. T. Pearce

Medical Officer of Health

to the Kingswood Urban District

February 16th 1898

A.

Table of deaths during the year 1897 in the Kingswood Urban district, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities.

| Locality. | Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages | | | | | | | Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of children under 5 years. | | | | | | |

B. Table of Population. Births, and of new cases of Infectious sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897 in the Kingswood Auburn District: classified according to Diseases, ages, & Localities

Locality	Population last Census.	Population estimated to middle of 1897.		new cases of sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.											
				Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Typhus Fever	Enteric or Typhoid Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cancer	Erysipelas	Measles	Suppd amount Influenza
Kingswood Auburn District	9.700.	12.000.	under 5.	0.	7.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	1.	23. 40.
	Registered Births. 343.		5 upwds.	0.	14.	3.	0.	0.	2.	0.	0.	0.	0.	15.	27. 350.

Since 1891. Notification of Infectious Disease is compulsory in the District

There is no isolation in the District, and no Isolation outside the District used by the Sick

Report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

Gentlemen, I beg to report that during the past year the District has been periodically inspected, and a large number of nuisances have been abated, arising from bessepools overflowing, foul closets, defective drains &c.

The Slaughter-houses have been inspected monthly the Bakehouses monthly and the Cowsheds and Dairies Quarterly, and the whole of the Factories have been inspected.

I attended to all cases of Fever and the disinfection and fumigation of the premises

The following nuisances proved attention & were abated during the year.

34 nuisances arising from bessepools overflowing
12. Choked & defective drains but in order
7. defective bessepools.
10. Foul closets.
2. Cases of overcrowding
1. caused by a coal-pipe being on fire.
1. by shutting fish being deposited near the highway.
204. Inspections were made of the slaughterhouses
203. " " " " Bakehouses
75. " " " " Cowsheds & Dairies
26. " " " " Factories
13. Samples of water were received to be analysed.

The Closets of the District have also been cleaned out and disinfected.